

PATTAYA CRICKET CLUB BACK TO WINNING WAYS IN EASTERN SEABOARD CRICKET LEAGUE

Pattaya Cricket Club played Kerala at the Thai Polo Ground in their latest round of the Eastern Seaboard Cricket League.

After two successive league defeats PCC were desperate for a good performance and a win. Having lost the toss and been asked to bat PCC were soon in trouble as wickets tumbled early to the lively Kerala opening bowlers. However, the run rate was good but when Venky ran the PCC skipper

Simon Philbrook out for nought the score was 68/6 and the prospect of a competitive total looked bleak. The despondent Venky was joined by the reassuring 6 feet 9 inches presence of Bernard Lamprecht and the pair began to rebuild the innings. Bernard picked up singles regularly and Venky interspersed some wonderful clean hitting with the ability to identify the fielder who could not catch. The partnership had reached 61 when Venky misjudged a fielder and was caught for a very good 69. Bernard (30no) finished in style by hitting two consecutive sixes back past the bowler from the last two balls of the innings to give PCC the momentum they needed and post a competitive 149/8 from the 25 allotted overs.

The PCC bowlers had been bowling too short in previous games and a game plan

to bowl full and straight was adopted from the start. With a defensive field set the onus was on the batsmen to take on the bowlers. The bowling and fielding was exemplary as the Kerala batsmen were restricted to only 22/0 from the first 5 overs of Andy Emery and Lee Standen. Peter Gangur and Nishant maintained the pressure and once again it was Peter's flight and guile that broke the deadlock. Although wickets did not tumble as the

required run rate soared PCC were always in control of the match. Slowly but surely as the overs ticked by it became evident Kerala were not going to win the game and eventually wickets began to fall, particularly when the PCC spinners of Peter and Tiz spun their magic and took 4 wickets between them. Kerala finished on 104/6, losing by 45 runs. Venky was named deservedly as man of the match.

PCC's next fixture is at St Andrews International School as part of a social 8-a-side tournament on Sunday 18th March.

PCC would like to thank the club sponsors PSC, Amigo Group, Retox Outback Bar, Macallan Insurance and Aegis International and encourage anyone with a passion for the game to join the club by visiting the club website www.pattayacricketchub.com or the Facebook page.